

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of)	
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Reinhard Hilger, et al.)	Art Unit: To be assigned
)	
Serial No. To be assigned)	Examiner: To be assigned
)	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)	
)	
Title: FILLER DEVICE)	Atty. Docket No. 16202.590
)	

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
And Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified patent application, please
amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

6. The filler device as defined in Claim 4, characterized in that the locking device
(13, 14) is arranged in such a way that it is effective in the initial position.

7. The filler device as defined in Claim 1, characterized in that the movement
region comprises an axial path for emplacement of the closure cap (1) until the initial
position is reached, and, subsequent thereto, a circumferential path until the final position
is reached, the circumferential path comprising the engagement path.

8. The filler device as defined in Claim 6, characterized in that the locking device
(13, 14) is effective in the region of the transition from axial path to circumferential path.

9. The filler device as defined in Claim 1, characterized in that the locking device (13, 14) has a resiliently deflectable locking lug (15, 16) on one of the parts (filler neck (23) or closure cap (1)), which is located in the movement region of one engagement element (25, 26) against the other part (23).

13. The filler device as defined in Claim 11, characterized in that the locking lug (13, 14) is arranged at the transition from the axial to the circumferential segment, and has inclined ramps (19, 20, 21, 22) in the axial and the radial direction.

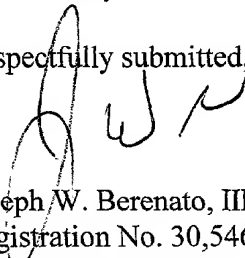
14. The filler device as defined in Claim 1, characterized in that the filler neck (23) and the closure cap (1) have several pairs of complementary engagement elements (7, 8, 25, 26), which are arranged in such a way that the closure cap (1) can be emplaced in a corresponding number of initial positions; and that an equal number of locking devices (13, 14) is provided.

REMARKS

The preceding amendment has been made to cancel the multiple dependent claims appearing in the application. The claims are now in condition for examination.

It is believed that no charges are due for this submission. However, if this is incorrect, then please debit Account 50-0548 and notify the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

6. The filler device as defined in Claim 4 [or 5], characterized in that the locking device (13, 14) is arranged in such a way that it is effective in the initial position.

7. The filler device as defined in [one of claims 1 through 6] Claim 1, characterized in that the movement region comprises an axial path for emplacement of the closure cap (1) until the initial position is reached, and, subsequent thereto, a circumferential path until the final position is reached, the circumferential path comprising the engagement path.

8. The filler device as defined in [Claims 6 and 7] Claim 6, characterized in that the locking device (13, 14) is effective in the region of the transition from axial path to circumferential path.

9. The filler device as defined in [one of Claims 1 through 8] Claim 1, characterized in that the locking device (13, 14) has a resiliently deflectable locking lug (15, 16) on one of the parts (filler neck (23) or closure cap (1)), which is located in the movement region of one engagement element (25, 26) against the other part (23).

13. The filler device as defined in Claim 11 [or 12], characterized in that the locking lug (13, 14) is arranged at the transition from the axial to the circumferential segment, and has inclined ramps (19, 20, 21, 22) in the axial and the radial direction.

14. The filler device as defined in [one of Claims 1 through 13] Claim 1, characterized in that the filler neck (23) and the closure cap (1) have several pairs of complementary engagement elements (7, 8, 25, 26), which are arranged in such a way that the closure cap (1) can be emplaced in a corresponding number of initial positions; and that an equal number of locking devices (13, 14) is provided.